

Hus Happenings

December 2007



Please welcome Randy Havel and Dorris Gerard into the Hus Church family. Both Randy and Dorris recently transferred their membership to Hus Church. Please congratulate them and help them to feel at home!



Annual reports are due to the office on Sunday, January 13th.



Annual Congregational Meeting will be held after service on Sunday, January 27th.

Ordination/Installation of Church Officers will be held on Sunday, January 6th during worship service.

December Birthdays

1st Patricia Jones
1st Javan Wilson
3rd Caryl Schmidt
7th Ann Barta
8th Gary Dvorak
9th Joe Kurka
9th Mikayla Hite
11th Jonathan Currie
12th Eulalia Johnson
13th Jeffrey Schulz
15th Venda Jasa
16th Alma Rompot
17th Bill Cabbage
17th Amanda Trotman
18th Vlasta Fajmon
20th Justin Pierce
21st Steve Snyder
23rd Ron Wegner
26th Lincoln Currie
28th Alissa Brimeyer
30th Anna Drahovzal



December Anniversaries

5 th	Ken & Virginia Kloubec	60 years
7 th	Dan & Melissa Pierce	16 years
7 th	James & Irene Hutton	50 years

PULPIT FILLS FOR DECEMBER

2nd Sharon Ruzicka
9th Terry Van Wyk
16th Choir Cantata
23rd Lanette Van
30th BOOM Sunday

Transportation provided by the Deacons

Please call the office by the Thursday to schedule a ride to church. A Deacon will return your call and arrange to pick you up and take you home following worship service.

Hus E-mail address: huschurch@huschurch.org
Website: www.huschurch.org



The stewardship crisis facing churches

by Brian Kluth, May 23, 2006

A few years ago a foundation funded a research project to determine how many seminaries were actually teaching future pastors about stewardship and finances.

Here's what they found out: Less than 5 percent of American seminaries across the country had any teaching on biblical stewardship, personal finances or church funding.

The study also discovered that only one pastor out of every seven felt as if he had been equipped to understand, practice or teach biblical stewardship and financial principles. It's strange that biblical stewardship seems to be such a silent subject in today's churches and seminaries. Because stewardship really is the heart of what it means to submit one's life to God. But in many churches if the word stewardship is used at all it's used solely in connection with funding the budget, paying the bills, or getting money to build a building.

But God's goal in the area of stewardship is something altogether different and much, much better. God's goal is transformed lives—men and women, boys and girls, transformed by the truth and power of god's word. True biblical stewardship is lordship teaching at the highest level. It's about bringing every aspect of a person's life under the lordship of Christ.

Several years ago a study by the Barna research group found that the less often people read their Bible, the less likely they are to be faithful givers in their church. In contrast, the more people learn and understand God's perspective on life and material possessions, the more likely they are to give.

God's perspective tells us that everything belongs to him and that we're simply managers of it. God's perspective is that where our treasure is there will our hearts be also. God's perspective says we can't serve him if we're serving money. The Rev. Billy Graham once said that every person's checkbook is a theological document. It tells you who and what you worship. That's why teaching about money in the church is so important. Why pastors, teachers, Sunday school teachers and seminary professors must not be silent on this subject any longer.

You see, money is about so much more than money. It is indeed about who and what we worship. When we teach what God has said about financial stewardship we're working with the Holy Spirit to transform lives, which is the very reason the Lord instituted the church in the first place.

Reprinted with permission from *Money Matters*, a monthly economic magazine published by Crown Financial Ministries, Gainesville, Georgia."

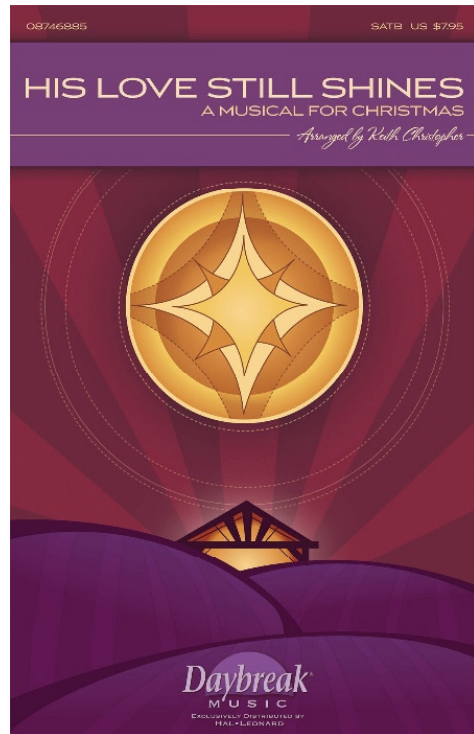
Faith Filled Giving

In the continued analysis of our giving since we have been without a Pastor (12 week period), something has been very apparent. The average number of envelope givers per Sunday was 28.5, and the average amount given was \$50.25. This would amount to \$74,470 envelope giving for the year. However, there were 35 envelope givers for two Sundays during that period and using the average giving figure of \$50.25. would amount to \$91,455 for the year. This last figure approaches an amount necessary to maintain Hus Church annually.

In a nutshell, our giving must be faithful even if we are unable to attend on a given Sunday. Attending this church or any church is not like going to a movie or a concert where you pay for that performance. We as members of this church must have a Faith Filled commitment to God as we give continuously in loving support of His church.

Finance Committee

Come and enjoy the choir cantata during regular worship service on December 16th.



**Sunday,
December 16th**



Start your Christmas season off right by sharing the love and joy of Christ with our care centers and homebound members and enjoy the fellowship that caroling always brings! Afterwards, meet back at the church to share a hot meal together.

Sign up sheets for caroling and food items will be in the narthex. Workers are also needed to help in the kitchen while the carolers are singing.



Meet in the
Fellowship Hall at
1:30 PM on Sunday,
December 16th!

Rotational Sunday School Exploring God's World

Hus Church Sunday School is from
10:45am-11:30am each Sunday

**KIDS AGES 3-5TH
GRADE WILL MEET
IN THE SCRIPTURE
SAFARI ROOM.
FROM THERE, WE'LL
DIRECT THE KIDS TO
THEIR STATION FOR
THE DAY.**

Rotational
Sunday School will
finish up our study
of the life of Moses
in December. Kids
who memorize the
10 Commandments
get a special prize.

**There will be no
Sunday School
on December
16, 23 or 30**

The Stations:

Imagination Island:
Creative Art

Bible Broadway:
Drama

Movies on the Mount:
Video

SCRIPTURE

SAFARI:
Bible Exploration

Polar PC:
Computers

On December 2, Hus Church
will award Bibles to 4th &
5th Grade Students.

Congratulations to:
Hannah Raim, Justin
Pierce, Nicholas Snyder,
Tessa Snyder, and
Valerie Atkinson. We pray
that you "write God's word
upon your heart." (Psalm 119:11)

THANKS TO THE
MIDDLE SCHOOL
GANG FOR
PERFORMING THE
SKITS ON BOOM
SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 30!

Youth in
High School
meet in the
Youth Room
for
Sunday School
with Marcia,
Terry and Diane.

**Adults meet in the upstairs Adult Sunday School Room for class with Judy! Come
join in the discussion. Anyone is welcome.**



A HISTORY OF HUS MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PART II CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.

ADAPTED FROM A HISTORICAL TREATISE WRITTEN BY CHARLOTTE STELCIK

THE CENTRAL WEST BOHEMIAN PRESBYTERY

Before explaining the actual beginnings of Hus Memorial Presbyterian Church in Cedar Rapids, it is necessary to consider the beginnings of the Central West Presbytery of which the local church became a member in November 1908. This was the beginning of an effort to consolidate all the Czech churches in the Central West states together.

The foundations of the churches of the Central West Presbytery were laid in the pioneer period of the central states and manifest the characteristics of the settlements about the middle nineteenth century. The Church today is reaping the results of their hard toil, abundant faith, honest work, simple wants, and high

ideals, all abundant contributions to the agricultural development of the Middle West.

The founders of the Czech churches were sons and daughters of the Reformed Church of Bohemia and Moravia. Their immigration to the United States commenced after the downfall of the democratic uprisings in Europe in 1848, and with the approaching reaction against political and ecclesiastical autocracy.

From their mother church, these settlers brought the heritage of faith in God, the Bible, the prayer book, and the hymnal. Unlike other happier immigrants they were not accompanied by ordained spiritual leaders. For forty years the Bohemian Protestant pioneers kept the Christian fellowship without a ministry and without any assistance from abroad. Yet they met regularly for worship, often in the homes of their neighbors, built churches, and hoped for a trained ministry. The reliance upon self-help in religious nurture has not disappeared. In 1920, at a time of threatening dearth in the number of candidates, the Committee of Education advised the return to the "well tested method of laymen leading in service in church and Sunday School where no other better way" was provided. It is touching to read of the appeals sent to the only man available, in the fifties, for a preaching service and for the administration of the sacraments. This man was the Rev. Francis Kun, an ordained minister from Bohemia, a man with extensive university and theological training. Descended from a family of preachers, he was an admirable leader and an unselfish friend. This pioneer evangelist arrived in Tama County in 1856 and tilled the soil while waiting for a call. Demands soon were coming from neighboring states. Mr. Kun accepted the call to Ely, Linn county, Iowa, October 1, 1860, and made Ely the base for his visitations of Bohemian congregations. Besides, he filled for two years the chair of professor of Latin and Greek at Western College, Western, Iowa, prior to its removal to Toledo.

Of his stern resolve and his devotion to what he considered his duty to co-religionists, we can form a faint conception when we remember that he often braved a trip of sixty miles through roadless country to visit people. That was before the Civil war. He preached in English, Czech, or German, as circumstances required. Rev. Kun came to the United States in 1856. Before coming, he was warned that "the prospects for a Czech pastor were not encouraging." The worthy man died at Ely in 1894 in his sixty-ninth year.

The year 1888 is a milestone in the history of the Churches of the Central West. So far the Bohemian churches existed as Independent Reformed Congregations without union among themselves or any denomination.

In September 1888, three candidates for the ministry, Joseph Bren, Vaclav Losa, and Francis Pokorny, arrived and entered Union Seminary under the care of the Presbytery of New York. After a survey of their work, Dr. Vincent Pisek of New York presented a favorable report, which was supported by the synodical superintendents; whereupon the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions became responsible for mission work among the Bohemians in the Central West. The independent congregations one by one were organized into Presbyterian churches by the presbyteries within whose bounds they were located. Within six years the churches so organized were all served by resident pastors. In addition every pastor in the respective churches regularly visited and preached at one or more stations in nearby towns.

Because of Him ~ Terry

14-18"Watch for this: The time is coming'—God's Decree—'when I will keep the promise I made to the families of Israel and Judah. When that time comes, I will make a fresh and true shoot sprout from the David-Tree. He will run this country honestly and fairly. He will set things right. That's when Judah will be secure and Jerusalem live in safety. The motto for the city will be, "God Has Set Things Right for Us." God has made it clear that there will always be a descendant of David ruling the people of Israel and that there will always be Levitical priests on hand to offer burnt offerings, present grain offerings, and carry on the sacrificial worship in my honor."

Jeremiah 33:14-16 (MSG), A Fresh and True Shoot from the David-Tree

Upcoming Meetings - December

- Join us on November 5th for "Kindergarten Cop"; the movie is about 111 minutes so please plan accordingly. Get to the youth room early for a seat, as we will start at 5:00 PM with prayer, pizza, pop, and the movie. Please bring \$3 to help cover cost of the pizza and pop.
- On the 12th and 19th we will gather from 5:45 to 6:45 PM.
- We will not have our group on December 26th.

Events not scheduled yet will be announced as far in advance as possible so you can make plans to attend.

Upcoming Events

December

2 nd	Youth serving Sunday Evening Meal at 1st Presbyterian Church, Cedar Rapids - 4 - 6 PM
5 th	Movie Night starts at 5:00 PM - please note the change in time for this month.
16 th	Christmas Caroling - start at Hus Church at 1:30 PM.
24 th	Christmas Eve Worship Service at 11 PM.
25 th	Merry Christmas
26 th	NO Youth Group
30 th	BOOM Sunday

Fellowship Activity: Family Game Night in January - watch for details!

Every Monday: Youth Prayer Time, 7 PM from where ever you are.

Every Wednesday: Marion High School Bible study at 7 AM.

Every Friday:

- ✚ Breakfast Club at Kennedy High School, Room 162 beginning at 7 AM. For more information contact Bob Dye at 393-7996 or email him at bob@eiayfc.com.
- ✚ Marion High School Bible study at 3 PM.

Times subject to change.

A Moment With God

*Loving Father, Help us remember the birth of Jesus,
that we may share in the song of the angels,
the gladness of the shepherds,
and worship of the wise men.*

Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children, and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

- A Christmas Prayer by Robert Louis Stevenson

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